

Claims

SEP 12 2001

RECEIVED
SEP 12 2001

1. A nutritional enteral composition intended for favoring the growth and maturation of non-mature gastro-intestinal tracts of young mammals, which contains as a protein source a mixture of dietary protein hydrolysates and intact proteins being partly in the form of bioactive peptides.
2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the dietary protein hydrolysates are in the form of a mixture of different size peptides, free amino acids or a mixture thereof.
3. A composition according to claim 2, wherein the dietary protein hydrolysates contain at least about 5 % (by weight, of the total protein content calculated as Nitrogen x 6.25) of hydrolysate having a degree of hydrolysis of about 40 and at least about 5 % of hydrolysates having a lesser degree of hydrolysis.
4. A composition according to claims 2 or 3, wherein free amino acids are in an amount of about 0 to about 20 % by weight of the total protein content (calculated as Nitrogen x 6.25).
5. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the intact proteins are in an amount of at least about 5% by weight of the total protein content (calculated as Nx6.25).
6. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the intact proteins are milk proteins, whey proteins, caseins and bioactive peptides such as TGF- β 2.
7. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 6, wherein bioactive peptides represent at least about 0.1 to about 4 ng/mg total protein.
8. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 7 which contains a source of protein providing 5 to 30% of the total energy, a source of carbohydrates which provides 40 to 80% of the total energy, a source of lipids which provides 5 to 55% of the total energy, minerals and vitamins to meet daily requirements.

- 5 9. Use of a selected mixture of dietary protein hydrolysates and intact proteins being partly in the form of bioactive peptides as protein source in the preparation of a nutritional enteral composition intended for favoring the growth and maturation of non-mature gastro-intestinal tracts of young mammals.
- 10 10. Use according to claim 9, wherein the dietary protein hydrolysates are in the form of a mixture of different size peptides, free amino acids or a mixture thereof.
- 15 11. Use according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the dietary protein hydrolysates comprise at least 5 % (by weight, of the total protein content calculated as Nitrogen x 6.25) of hydrolysate having a degree of hydrolysis of about 40 and at least 5 % of hydrolysates having a lesser degree of hydrolysis.
- 20 12. Use according to any of claim 9 to 11, wherein free amino acids are in an amount of about 0 to about 20 % by weight of the total protein content (N x 6.25)
- 25 13. Use according to any of claims 9 to 12, wherein the intact proteins are in an amount of at least about 5% of the total protein content.
- 30 14. Use according to any of claims 9 to 13, wherein the the intact proteins are milk proteins, whey proteins, caseins and bioactive peptides such as TGF- β 2.
- 35 15. Use according to any of claims 9 to 14, wherein bioactive peptides represent about 0.1 to about 4 ng/mg total protein.
16. Use according to any of claims 9 to 15, in which the nutritional composition contains a source of protein providing 5 to 30% of the total energy, a source of carbohydrates which provides 40 to 80% of the total energy, a source of lipids which provides 5 to 55% of the total energy, minerals and vitamins to meet daily requirements.